

only divided the honors with her. He took her to ride or to skate just as often, only Cousin Effie now accompanied them. To be sure, Clara's good breeding pre-

"Effie!" exclaimed Walter. "What has my treatment of you to do with her? Have I failed you in any respect, Clara, since we were engaged? Speak, darling!" and here his voice trembled. "Have I really done

t while she is with us is only as a gentleman and a friend. Our many precious meetings have been interrupted by her coming, but I'm sure she is not, has it?"

No, Walter Gray was passing through the greatest trial of his life.

...ry party they were. Fifteen couples
...ster sleigh, drawn by four horses,
...g with bells—plenty of bridges to
...what could make young hearts hap-

her face on his shoulder and
back to consciousness, and
cousin Effie was their bride.

Walter did not like the tone of her voice but he made another attempt.

"Your little fingers weren't made for such a contest," he said, smiling, and taking her of the refractory tassel.

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